

## DOJ drops charges against Louie Gonzalez in Delgado murder case

METRO / A19

## Rival clans clash in North Cotabato; 9 killed, ex-gov, wife hurt

NEWS / A2

## DepEd bans Chinese snacks in public schools

By Jerry E. Esguerra

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAS stopped the sale of banned Chinese food products in the classrooms of the 10,000-plus public and private elementary and secondary schools nationwide.

In Memorandum Order No. 23 s. 10, the DepEd directed all school officials to "see to it that school children do not consume food products for sale."

The department also directed from the Department of Health-related Bureau of Food and Drugs which states that public

## House cites Abalos 'scandal' to stop polls

By Jerry E. Esguerra and Maika Pags

ONE MAN'S SCANDAL can be another man's triumph.

The controversial sounding Commission on Elections (Comelec) has



**SCENIC VIEW** A stretch of the Marikina Highway is well-travelled route from Quezon, Mountain Province, is badly in need of repairs after rainfall last week, along with other substantial repairs including on this road that had been hit by landslides.

# Mike A confirms meet

## His lawyer says FG didn't point finger at JDV III

By Ed Tap

JOSE MIGUEL AUROYO HAS CONFIRMED THAT he met with Jose "Joey" de Venecia III at a golf clubhouse, but said it was "a purely chance encounter" that did not include his ordering the businessman to "back off" from the National

Football League (NFL).

After former lawyer and spokesperson of President Benigno Aquino's son said his close deal with Venecia in mid-March for his version of the traveling differed greatly from that of speaker

Joey de Venecia III's son.

For one, according to him, Aquino denied buying Venecia to pull out of the \$100-million NFL deal in favor of China's JTB Group, as the businessman owner of Australian Holdings Inc.

INQUIRER

## GMA orders Cabinet men to face probe

By Christine O. Sison, Michael Lim Wee and Dora T. Pazdag

IN A SURPRISE TURNABOUT, PRESIDENT Maungagat Jr. ordered his Cabinet members to attend today's Senate hearing on the National Broadband Network controversy and tell all they know about the deal with China's ZTE Corp.

The directive came hours after his lawyer, speaking at the Senate Public Forum on Information and Communications Technology in September, said officials should not be subject to scrutiny to destabilize his government.

"We, public officials, are submitting that there should not be any investigation the way they conduct their work," he said at the Green Plaza Hotel in Quezon City.

"Let's not be dissuaded or dissuade by ourselves whether you're a senator, when you are being asked by what means

ONE SOURCE

## Luli leads counterattack on Joey de V

By Michael Lim Wee, Christine O. Sison and Norman Bernardo

LIED BY PRESIDENT MAUNGAGAT JR.'s daughter, the administration lawyer mounted a counterattack against Jose "Joey" de Venecia III after the businessman implicated First Lady Benigno Jr.

in a hidden scandal over a \$120-million broadband project with China. "Luli" Aquino told reporters on the sidelines of a press conference that "Joey" said he Venecia III had in past years position, don't think it is innocent people here. "I don't know if he said anything about

his thinking," he said. Luli said she had talked to her father, who had acknowledged Venecia showed up on the site of the Senate inquiry where the young de Venecia on Tuesday stated his "regret" over the broadband deal. Luli said he had said to her father

LIBS/ANON

## Young martial law fighter-thinker cited 20 years after his murder

By Jocelyn B. Uy

THIS YOUNG MAN DID NOT TURN A head up to the hero he killed on the way while he was in the grip of martial law.

Leon Alapag, arrested at 27, innocently in the distance, spent in prison by the Aquino administration—did not engage in the struggle that prevented much of the youth in his class, instead, to chase to

fight the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos.

He took to the streets to question the status quo and advocate change. Instead, some with other protest leaders in the streets, and ended prison for several months in his bid.

But the "father-son" image of Aquino has slowly become clear—30 years after his killing.

"We are the most important thing in this world."

INQUIRER



**WOMAN POWER** Two women took up the spotlight for Mike A. and his daughter, Jose "Joey" de Venecia III, as they walked together for the opening of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Information and Communications Technology in September.

## LAKAS VS KAMIPI

## House coalition cracks up, JDV could lose speakership

By Christine O. Sison and Norman Bernardo

A DAY AFTER JOSE "JOEY" DE VENECIA III's daughter took up the spotlight for Mike A. and his daughter, Jose "Joey" de Venecia III, as they walked together for the opening of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Information and Communications Technology in September.

The leaders of First Governor Jose Miguel Alcala, Rep. Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo, president made it clear that he support for Dr. Venecia's bid to replace Jose de Venecia III as "leader" during the inauguration ceremony at the opening of the 14th Congress on July 20.



**UNWANTED** Leon Alapag, arrested at 27, innocently in the distance, spent in prison by the Aquino administration—did not engage in the struggle that prevented much of the youth in his class, instead, to chase to









The Sea has been the source and cradle for life on Earth for over 3 billion years. Without the Sea there could be no life on this planet. Our Sea occupy 70.8% of our planet's surface and provide 86 percent of the Earth's living space; the largest space in our common home to be inhabited by living organisms. The Sea has more places and more animals than land. Of the 11 biological groups of animals, 78 of them have been in the Sea thus only 1 of them are entirely terrestrial. The Sea is a both heaven and an unfathomable ocean; contains more water than could swim and therefore have cold to warm. The Ocean absorbs heat in summer and releases it in winter. The ocean and marine life consume huge amounts of carbon dioxide, and much more oxygen is produced and released through various photosynthesis than by all the world's terrestrial plants and forests combined.

Most of us give little attention to the Sea. We celebrate our country's National Day, we celebrate our birthday, we celebrate the New Year, we even have bank holidays, yet through the ages, none of us, regardless of nation or country had ever taken time to celebrate the Sea, the very essential element that keeps us all alive. Unlike the day that is mostly clear in sight, the Sea is a big pond of water a big dumping ground for our waste. Does that plant our ignorance and partly our apathy? We need to develop greater affinity for the Sea, for in the end, we can only prosper what we love. We need to be sensitive and our children to preserve the well-being of the Sea, there's nothing quite like it on land that is comparable in its resources and environment of our Sea. There is no life like the Celebrate the Sea Festival as the beauty of the Sea to not only entertain and inspire, but also importantly to empower people into actions that will preserve our natural environment. The Ocean of underwater imagery is the counterpart of the Celebrate the Sea Festival - we invite you to celebrate the sea with us... through and experience the award winning images, film, children paintings from over 30 countries. *Page 10 to 13*



**Marine Conservation Society Philippines** is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the protection of marine life and the environment. It is a member of the International Marine Conservation Society (IMCS) and is a member of the Philippine Marine Conservation Society (PMCS). The organization is dedicated to the protection of marine life and the environment. It is a member of the International Marine Conservation Society (IMCS) and is a member of the Philippine Marine Conservation Society (PMCS).

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More photos on all of you and the festival!



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# 11 SEP International Award

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# UNDERWATER PHOTO JOURNALIST AWARD (OQU)

**Winner**  
Scott Parrell - Australia

# CELEBRATE THE SEA AWARDS

## IMAGERY AWARDS

## Finalists

- Group A: Feature Story photography
- Group B: Short Story photography
- Group C: Short Story photography
- Group D: Short Story photography
- Group E: Short Story photography
- Group F: Short Story photography
- Group G: Short Story photography
- Group H: Short Story photography
- Group I: Short Story photography
- Group J: Short Story photography
- Group K: Short Story photography

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## Group B: Short Story photography

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- Group H: Short Story photography
- Group I: Short Story photography
- Group J: Short Story photography
- Group K: Short Story photography
- Group L: Short Story photography

## Group C: Short Story photography

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- Group D: Short Story photography
- Group E: Short Story photography
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- Group G: Short Story photography
- Group H: Short Story photography
- Group I: Short Story photography
- Group J: Short Story photography
- Group K: Short Story photography
- Group L: Short Story photography
- Group M: Short Story photography

## Villar, Roxas clash on punctuality

By GIC, Cebuexpress

**AFTER THE PAUSE** RAGGED BY SUN, BAKS ROXAS on Tuesday to set a definite time for the opening of Senate sessions. Senate President Manuel Villar agreed and declared that tomorrow he would bring the gavel at exactly 9 p.m. to signal the start of the session.

Yesterday, Villar did just that and banged the gavel in the session hall at exactly 9 p.m. but there was no Senate session. Only three senators were present.

A few minutes later, several senators were seen rushing to their seats with a shaggy grin, including those who were not making a habit of his late.

Due to requests from the press, Villar banged the gavel a second time to give a chance to the "lascars" to be on time in the second hour.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, who was among the early birds, commented early "The 10th President, should we be considered prompt now?" which elicited a loud guffaw from the senators.

Last Tuesday Roxas complained about the shifting opening time of the regular Senate sessions which were supposed to start at 9 p.m. but have begun variably between 7 and 4 p.m. since Villar assumed his new Senate post.

"We are expecting that we will be late and we have the gavel at that time. And those who are late are noted and those who are not late are either late or almost late because we could be opening a good portion of the afternoon late session," he said.

Villar, who was surprised by Roxas' inquiry, moved to suspend the session.

When the session resumed, Villar allowed that somehow, he would bring the gavel at exactly 9 p.m.

## PNP: Crime rate on the decline

**CONTRARY TO THE** RUMORS of a rise in crime, the country has actually been on a nearly downward trend for the past several years, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said yesterday.

The PNP was reacting to the recent rise in homicide figures. It said, however, that it noted that more out of 100 victims had crime in common crimes between January to June 2007.

Going against the statistics for homicide and intentional manslaughter, PNP spokesperson Chief Insp. Ramon Pajuelo said the crime rate for the first semester of 2007 was recorded at 29,244 cases, or a seven percent drop from the same period last year and a 14 percent drop compared to 2005.

Crime volume from January to July of 2008 was at 42,111 incidents and 45,904 incidents for the same period in 2007.

Pajuelo, however, stressed that their statistics are based only on crimes reported to the police.

For so-called "dark crimes" or crimes not involving murder, homicide, physical injuries, theft, robbery and rape, the figures were also down, the PNP said. *Ateneo Press*

## Angelita Roces: 84

**ANGELITA DAUTERA ROCES**, wife of former Manila Congressman Josefine B. Rocas, died yesterday after a stroke. She was 84.

She is survived by her husband and their two children, Dennis and Janelle.

Her remains will be from 4 p.m. today at the Rotunda de San Antonio in Pateros Park, Manila, where there also will be interment Saturday morning.

It may well be said for her at 8 o'clock tonight, at 7 o'clock tonight, and at 10 o'clock morning, preceding this moment.

# Forum sounds call for Asia democracy

**A CALL FOR CONSENSUS** TO promote democracy amid demands for resurgence of military and authoritarian regimes in Asia was sounded by participants of the 2nd World Forum for Democratization in Asia (WFA), scheduled yesterday at the Philippine Trade Hotel in Manila.

Organizers said the participants of the 3-day forum would convene under the International Day of Peace tomorrow, which also marks the 55th anniversary of the imposition of martial law in the Philippines by the then outgoing Ferdinand Marcos.

In his keynote address, Secretary Arroyo said, President Ma has opened Arroyo's address on the past process, lauded the involvement of civil society in promoting democracy in the country.

"The government can only do as

much as strongest democracy. We cannot all things and ensure democracy set on track through government intervention as through the power of the people themselves," Arroyo said.

He said Ma Arroyo had set in place a comprehensive peace process to the belief that the sustainability of democracy was peace, and vice versa.

Sen. Iñigo, leader of the opposition party in Congress, said he was in Manila, and he believed the Congress should exhibit with freedom fighters in Asian countries, especially those in Laos and Myanmar.

He said democracy in government and opposition parties should take the lead in the campaign to protect universal democracy in the region.

According to Iñigo, the three main criteria for true democracy are a vibrant opposition that constantly

challenges the government, independent media, and elections that are transparent and reflect the people's will.

### Act of aggression

Sen. Francisco, director and co-founder of the congressional organization Inagragra, which promotes the rights of indigenous peoples and votes oppressed and poor people in Malaysia, said the UN-led vote for Myanmar was "an international network with no loss and no action."

Francisco said the considered as an act of aggression the constant suspension of UN President George W. Bush that the security of the Asian people was the primary concern.

"Today, those labeled terrorists are those who protect the welfare of the country. This is a contribution to democracy," he said.

Human rights lawyer Alan Padilla, chair of the Senate committee on Human Rights for International Dialogue, said the human participants had conveyed "to assist, broaden and consider democracy."

He said the representatives of 30 Asian countries would share their best and worst lessons in democracy, institutionalization and transitions of administration, and push for demands of peace and justice.

On August 2008, former deputy prime minister of Malaysia, in a day a speech on "Prospects and Problems for Asian Democracy" today at 2 p.m.

The speech will highlight the Malaysian experience in political and civil liberties and economic development and in the consolidation of party control over the economy, politics and culture.



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# Sino execs ... ZTE officials may be held accountable, too, says law dean

By Joseph M. R.

By William H. Lopez

The Chinese officials were accompanied by Philippine-based Luzon Electric, the 12th year anniversary of its incorporation.

"The representatives of the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China came to see officials about the status of the 500M project, and furthermore show support for the project," Mendoza said in a statement.

The 500M project involves the setting up of a state-of-the-art communications system to interconnect all government agencies, from the Department of Education through the Department of Health, the government hopes to improve the delivery of services to the people.

A Chinese firm, ZTE Corp., was the 500M's official contractor for the 500M project. ZTE denied allegations that the company had to influence other contractors to Philippine government officials to bag the 500M project.

## Fair and square

Edward Lee, ZTE's global marketing director and chief international development officer, said the company won the 500M project "fair and square."

"ZTE has completed numerous biggest projects around the world," he said in a statement. "We have proposed the best price, financing and technical proposal, and we are confident of beating all our competitors, so there is absolutely no need to be overly anxious to get the project."

Lee said the allegations made by Jose de Venecia II, co-founder and majority owner of Luzon Electric, regarding the 500M project, were "untrue," against Philippine government officials were "untrue."

"We are long, we keep trying to be the public know the facts about 500M and ZTE," he said. "We had broadcast that even when we talked, the truth will always reach the public."

"We are not going to conceal the facts about the 500M project, we are going to let the public know the facts about 500M and ZTE," he said.

## Pressure

Mendoza's office denied that there was "pressure" on the DOTC to implement the deal but acknowledged that officials from China's MOEC are just to ask when the project would be implemented.

Mendoza said he informed the Chinese officials of the company's remaining order (TRC) issued by the Department of Energy on the project, pending the resolution of the two unresolved aspects.

He also mentioned his readiness to tackle all the issues raised before the high court, citing President Macapagal-Arroyo's remark that the 500M issues were "not involved" by the courts, based on a disposition via operations of the law and order.

ZTE, the Chinese government's contracted contractor for the project, denied sending the officials to the DOTC.

A ZTE source said the Chinese government officials came of their own accord to give the official seal of approval to the project.

In protest of the controversial loan for the project, China has the option to terminate a contract with the project.

In a statement to the Hong Kong and Shenzhen stock exchanges where its shares are traded, ZTE said it had always adhered to laws and rules in the conduct of its business both in China and abroad.

In the same time, the company also stressed that the 500M contract was not yet a done deal, but is conditional on the Philippine government obtaining a financing package from China's Export-Import Bank.

## Sales contract

"The contract was a sales contract entered into during the ordinary course of business of the company," it said with no change required.

"The contract also provided that income tax effect would be subject to the full payment of a number of proceeds, which included timely the resolution of relevant financing arrangements and the approval of relevant government authorities of the Philippines," ZTE said.

"As at the date of this announcement, the financial procedure required here has not been fully completed and the contract has not yet been entered into," it said.

ZTE said it was "highly concerned" about the matter and had been taking various actions, including engaging lawyers to file a petition with the high court and "apply for the company's remaining order to be null and void in accordance with due legal procedures."

ZTE said it was working closely with the DOTC to have the TRC issued "as soon as possible."

"The company has always conducted its business operations in a lawful and regular manner in strict compliance with relevant laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China and other countries because of the company's business operations," it said.

The 500M contract has been criticized as being corrupt and having lacked transparency.

Lee said the task police unit was "stepping back from debanking in debt" the claims made by De Venecia in his affidavit and to his testimony in the Senate on Tuesday.

Lee said ZTE was waiting for an opportunity to defend the project in the proper forum, on the basis of facts and figures and evidence. With support from Duterte, Lee said

OFFICIALS OF ZTE (120) HAD TAGGED THE 500M contract for the National Infrastructure Development (NID) project, may be held accountable if corruption on the 500M project is charged by the already suspended contract, a law dean said.

Jose Mendoza, dean of the University of the East College of Law, a great in the 1980s in the 1980s in Manila, and ZTE officials could be among the respondents because of an international agreement on the prevention of corruption.

Mendoza, especially noted as leader in the international EDR, million project with the Chinese company according to business from Jose "Ray" de Venecia II.

De Venecia, founder of Luzon Electric, who took

the 500M contract in ZTE, is accused by the Senate of having been involved in the 500M project, allegedly demanded advance commission from ZTE.

If the company had indeed provided to the demand, Mendoza said it means that ZTE parties paid to the bribe.

Indeed said De Venecia's statement against President Macapagal-Arroyo's husband was "untrue."

## Straightforward

In his testimony in the Senate, the son of President Jose de Venecia II claimed that the husband of President Macapagal-Arroyo had said him to "back off" from the deal.

The dean described the younger De Venecia as "very straightforward" and "very honest" in his testimony, as in fact, because he is doing it, he is speaking the way of people

close to the De Venecia."

Apartment Condo owner Jose de Venecia, also a great in the Senate, said "untrue" and "untrue."

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of public officials could be processed if they were found to be colluding with the members of parliament.

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LEOY HICHL, one of Eateries's founders, married Louis during the heat-of-the-moment election in 1984. In September of the following year, she became a writer.

the data pages 80

### Permanent mural

On the eve of Alexandria's 2005 Arab anniversary the FDC of New Orleans City was in a limited state preparing for the "New

Another photo exhibit was put up yesterday at the Lill Legarda Station in Manila showing Aguinaldo as a modern leader whose eyes were opened.

The murals were a project of

Alambreros was shot in the back inside his car, an Austin Gemini. He had just got down a book he was reading, by British socialist Antonio

"We would have really wanted to live in one these things," she said.

## DepEd bans Chinese snacks ...

and affordable meals to students because there will give them a better chance to succeed in college," says Schultz.

Formaldehyde is a colorless, pungent gas that is highly flammable and explosive. It is also a known carcinogen and can cause severe irritation to the eyes, nose, and throat. Formaldehyde is commonly found in household products such as formalin, which is used in embalming, and in various building materials and furniture. Exposure to formaldehyde can lead to allergic reactions, asthma, and other respiratory problems. It is important to use formaldehyde-containing products with caution and to ensure proper ventilation.

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imported Chinese products have given "positive results for the presence of trademarks" and protectors and distributed them by the Goodway International Trading Corp.

**Cardien, bicsite**

THE DAILY GOSPEL 

Published September 10, 2003

One of the Phantoms walked along to show this sword, as he was carrying the Phantom's bow, and as usual walked on the side to go. And it happened that a woman of this town, who was known as a witch, found that he was in the Phantom's house. They brought a priestess for a purpose and would inhabit him as his first sleeping. She was the first with him, she lived with him and he had his first and general life with her.

Heaven answered, "The sun, I suppose, will soon baptize them." And

[illegible][illegible]





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# Mike A confirms meet with JDV III

From page B1

[A1] claimed on Thursday at the end of his meeting with the President's inquiry panel.

"Why would the First Gentleman leave the Speaker's room when the incident being referred to by Jay was the first meeting between him and Mr. Arroyo—a purely chance encounter?" Ramos said yesterday at a press conference in Manila City.

Senato said Arroyo, who quietly flew to Hong Kong to meet in Europe on Monday last, merely "visited" by Arroyo that his being the Speaker's son made it inappropriate for him to get involved in government affairs.

For another, Arroyo denied that commission on Duterte (that Sen. Arroyo said...the alleged brother of the dead wife of ZTE)—was at the meeting at the Black Shark Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong City, Senato said.

Quitting his client, Senato said only Arroyo, Dr. Trevisan and Yanes, portation and communication secretary Lourdes Mendoza, were present.

Dr. Trevisan said Arroyo's version of their meeting was "totally false."

## While cabal was there

"There wasn't even an exchange of small talk. He just said we're back off," Dr. Trevisan said in an interview with the Inquirer.

Regarding Arroyo's claim that Abuja was absent at the meeting, Dr. Trevisan said the whole "cabal" was there.

"Chairman Abuja was there, Larry Mendoza was there, James Dela Rosa was there, Duterte deli. For me there, before before was there," Dr. Trevisan said.

Delia Dela Rosa was Abuja's chief of staff. Dela Rosa was the Philippine National Police commander when Mendoza was PNP chief while being in a gathering today at Manila and a former classmate of the President's brother, Sen. Juan Manzano.

Senato said he phoned his client

shortly after Dr. Trevisan's testimony at the hearing.

## 3-minute conversation

During the three-minute conversation, Senato said, he advised Arroyo to cut short his own work vacation in Europe, and Arroyo responded that he would be back "soon" to answer Dr. Trevisan's accusations.

Senato said he did not ask about his client's whereabouts.

Asked if Arroyo intended to testify at the Senate if needed, Senato said: "Yes, he will. The First Gentleman has nothing to hide."

But Senato Apud, the President's chief legal adviser, told reporters in Mandaluyong that not even a subpoena from the Senate Blue ribbon commission could compel Arroyo to testify.

Apud said he would not advise Arroyo to attend a "friendly" private hearing following a 15th anniversary legal anniversary on April 15.

"Absolutely not. I think the director will not advise him to appear because that does not mean him to undergo any stress," Apud said.

Even Sen. Benito Legarda said "it would be better if we just caution him or ask his director's permission if he can withstand the rigors of a hearing."

The Thursday hearing lasted more than five hours, with no lunch break. "I am particularly reluctant to call him to a hearing if it is not fit for it," Legarda, who had earlier accused Arroyo of keeping campaign money under the Jose P. Wadsworth account, told reporters.

## At Work Week

This was Senato's account of the "vision encounter."

Arroyo was at the Black Shark club house after a round of golf when Dr. Trevisan arrived and an inside him about a security issue.

Arroyo overheard Dr. Trevisan talking to Sen. Mendoza the 10th president on the presidential plane. At this point, Arroyo asked Mendoza about his resignation, leading Sen. Mendoza to make introductions.

"Dr. Trevisan continued to follow up his project proposed with Mendoza,

prompting Mr. Arroyo to remind the group. Dr. Trevisan said he cannot be involved in any government transaction because he is the son of the President," Senato said.

When Mr. Arroyo immediately joined other friends at another table," Senato said, acknowledging the President's statement that Arroyo had drunk a beer at his home and landed at home in back-off from the deal.

In a statement distributed to reporters, Senato pointed out that Dr. Trevisan kept 15th anniversary celebration of Arroyo's supposed political journey to the MNI deal.

"Why would his 15th anniversary celebration be held at the MNI table?" Senato said, adding:

"It is a clear common sense and common sense that maybe the young Dr. Trevisan has been involved in corruption."

## Used back off 5 times

Senato said Dr. Trevisan's remark that Arroyo had told him to "back off" was false.

He said it was obvious that Dr. Trevisan himself thought up the phrase, adding that "in the few years" that he had worked with Arroyo, "he never heard him say something like that."

"You men be never said that," he answered.

To prove his point, Senato showed reporters a copy of Dr. Trevisan's affidavit, in which the businessman told the phrase "back off" and "backing off" at least five times.

For example, in paragraph 22 of the nine-page affidavit, Dr. Trevisan said: "I could not back off without of MNI, and besides, Mr. Arroyo was the superior in the original Manila, ZTE project, and it would be more advantageous for the government..."

He said in paragraph 15: "Chairman Mendoza would occasionally request for meetings during the last one half of December 2004, so that he could convince me to either back off from the deal or be his partner."

Senato also indicated what would

be a crack in the relations between the First Family and the Inquirer.

He said that in his opinion, it would "not be believable the any young person to do something without the permission of their parents."

"Among us Filipinos, it's very common that we tell our parents first before doing something," he said.

Asked if he believed that Dr. Trevisan had his father's blessing to do what he did, Senato said: "I would not want to speculate."

## For health reasons

On April 21, the President left his riding brother's bedside for 12 hours and flew to Chicago to witness the signing of the MNI agreement by Mendoza and ZTE vice president Yu Yong.

Apud denied yesterday that Mendoza's decision not to allow Trevisan to attend the Senate inquiry had political undertones. He said it was only "for health reasons."

"In fact, that is what the director keeps on emphasizing. He (Arroyo) is recovering. He should not be doing things that will be stressful," Apud said.

Told that the former blue ribbon commission could possibly call Arroyo for testimony, Apud said: "It will depend again on the doctors. It health reasons is always a valid reason in all investigative bodies, but I think he would not be cited for testimony. There is no basis for that."

Senato himself said he would "never manifest, if necessary," that Arroyo was the commission in the inquiry because of his health.

"It's not for anything (what)," the senator said. "We are all Christians. So matter how important the information we need to extract from him, if there are health concerns, we should just wait."

## Legal excuse

Senato also said the hearings could go on even without Arroyo's testimony on what supposedly happened at the Black Shark meeting with Dr. Trevisan.

Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago said Arroyo should be legally excused from the hearings given his condition.

Senato's latest response, Dr. Benigno Cardia, said on Thursday that Arroyo had asked permission to go on a two-week trip to Europe. He said he had given the go-ahead, but extended to the Inquirer that his parent's departure—and the son of the Senate inquiry—was illegal.

It was not the only case of bad timing for the President's husband.

On May 30, 2005, amid accusations that he had received kickbacks from "Garcia," he flew to Singapore. Senato, his lawyer, claimed that his sudden departure was related to the controversy and said he was back just gone on vacation with his wife, Gloria and Marlene.

Arroyo returned on May 29. On June 16, a day after the President announced that his husband had volunteered to go ahead, "to remove himself from any situation that I would I can handle on that," Senato said.

Arroyo came back after three days but left again, this time for the United States on July 16.

Arroyo flew back on July 31 to attend the funeral of his half-sister, then returned to the United States on Aug. 20.

He stayed there until late October. With reports from Michael Gonzales, GMA 7's Cebu reporter, and Inquirer's reporter

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# Angeles City mired in P484-M debt

By Tereza Ordo  
Inquirer General Editor

**ANGELES CITY**—THE CITY GOVERNMENT, HOST to the Clark Freeport, is mired in a P484-million debt, its bureaucracy hit with 7,048 job orders and its operating budget depleted to less than 20 percent in the last four months. Mayor Francis Nepomuceno told reporters.

Asked how his predecessor now Rep. Gonzalo Lacorte, faced a financial management, Nepomuceno said, "It's mismanaged. It has no different priorities. It doesn't know the budget for one year was deliberately used up."

## Alarm raised in Negros, Capiz on coco pests

By Felipe V. Cabalo  
and Remy Arduco  
Inquirer Iloilo

**BOHOL CITY**—GOVERNMENT officials in Capiz and Negros Oriental have raised the alarm over the possible spread of a pest that could damage coconut trees in the Visayas.

Capiz, Negros Oriental, has estimated the pest to eat up checkpoints at all of the province's entry points to prevent agricultural products that might contain the coconut leaf beetle (Chrysomelidae longicornis) from crossing.

The beetle has wreaked havoc on coconut trees in some parts of Luzon and is now seen as a threat in the Visayas, according to Bicoland Tuguegarao, head of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) in Negros Oriental.

## Violence

Police issued his directive after allegations. Unsubstantiated. Some towns issued local orders to help apprehend of the information.

PCA Capiz manager, Jeffrey de los Reyes urged the people to be vigilant since the coconut leaf beetle and have attacked palm in Borneo Island in Asia on Aug. 11.

The first and second beetle was sighted earlier in Samar and Benguet. Capiz remains free from the coconut pest.

The adult beetle and its larva are the most common pests of young coconut orchards and feed on the soft tissue, causing decay and dying of affected parts which prevent the tree from bearing fruit, Tuguegarao said.

## Threatened industry

He said a record he said in the past few years getting into the region. Ordo said the province has 30,000 hectares of coconut plantation, about 90,000 of its people directly depend on the coconut industry.

Nature instructed Capiz police director Remy Arduco Villanueva to coordinate with the provincial quarantine office of the Bureau of Plant Industry and the PCA for the effective implementation of quarantine checkpoints.

He ordered Maramba to work with authorities in the Bureau City airport and airports.

Tuguegarao said his office was now conducting a province-wide weekly monitoring of coconut plantations and health reports with coconut and other public trees to prevent the entry of the pest.

about this is dominant on. He's covering his efforts in addressing immediate concerns. He said waste management. He was stepping up on collection efforts. In fact on Tuesday.

Reached on Wednesday, Lacorte said his administration had obtained at least P300 million in loans. There are for the slaughterhouse (P20 million), on cultural housing (P10 million), San Nicolas public market (P10 million), said waste management (P40 million), hospital construction project (P20 million) and education (P40 million).

"We can't do his job, he's been down. Why Manila over the his

debt and these public employees had not been taking over income to the city government. The audit has not been fully completed, said by disburse among them alleged irregularities in the distribution.

The slaughterhouse was still facility as a temporary place a "sitting duck." The bridge of the new bridge, for instance, was intended for modern office as a new building. The 5,000 job orders or personnel had about one week for the mayor's office and 1,000 job orders for the legislature created from January to June resulted payments of P14.7 million, reports from the budget and accounting officers showed.

"It is necessary," Nepomuceno said of the work hours, saying this point in comparison to the rest of provincial employees.

He reported the "dispute center" at the mayor's office, saying that the city government had a total of P51 million.

The non-office accounts for disaster prevention and gender development, among other things, totaling P62 million, according to P4.5 million.

"We're lying," Lacorte said of the number of job orders that Nepomuceno submitted in bills. He said he only hired 1,000 people, Nepomuceno, he said, employed 4,000 people."

They expressed that they would suffer from respiratory diseases if the amount of trash that had piled up must not be dumped.

The Market Vendors Association opposed to Mayor Lacorte Mary to on their complaint, saying that they had been wearing masks since Aug. 15 due to the bad smell of the garbage that littered the public market, schools and villages.

Mayor Roberto Tuguegarao said that before he was elected as mayor, he was sure that the residents were angry over the refusal of Mary to order the garbage problem.

Tuguegarao, a physician, said the stinking garbage at the public market had inspired residents and was a source of respiratory diseases, especially in this rainy season.

"Our children are forced to wear masks to cover their faces. The lack of sanitation poses health hazards to residents," he said.

Mary said his team was faced with the worsening garbage problem but he blamed Tuguegarao and his team counsel for the mess. He said he could not reduce the budget intended for waste disposal operations.

"I taught him the passage of the P20-million supplemental budget, but (he) cannot afford it," he said.

Mary said council members were laid off and still expecting to be paid on the garbage disposal to the budget reduction. Inquirer General Editor



**FEEDING PROGRAM**  
A resident of Benguet, Philippine, Alvin takes his first meal at a volunteer site for victims of past typhoons in the area. The feeding program was sponsored by the Typhoon Victims Association (Tyga International) of America.

## Public asked to help vs cell site attacks

**LEGASPI CITY**—THE PHILIPPINE army in Negros Oriental appeared in villages living under telecommunications in its stations to seek information on possible future attacks by the Philippine army in the region.

On Monday night, about 20 PFA members, headed a Cyber Communications office in the Benguet region in Pangasinan.

town and its relay station in Benguet (Pangasinan) to 18-anniversary, both in Cebu and in

The launching of the relay station near the Marikina highway damaged its detachable cable with P4 million.

Police said the launching of the cell site caused damages of at least P10,000.

It took, cited intelligence reports as saying that the attack was due to the company's refusal to pay "ransom money" to the PFA.

Earlier, PFA members, as well as a Cyber team in Benguet, were in the Marikina relay station near the road, where the first attempt was made by reports from civilians.

The relay station was the base of the PFA, located in Benguet, Ilocos, before launching the money police said.

As of duty guard, identified as a Cyber team, was wounded and brought to the Cebu Hospital.

Police said Monday's bombing was the third attack on the Pangasinan relay station near the Marikina highway.

The relay station was the base of the PFA, located in Benguet, Ilocos, before launching the money police said.

## More abuse cases being reported in Ifugao

**PANAY, IFUGAO**—THE NUMBER of cases of violence against women and children have increased sharply in the province this year, but officials have issued orders to tighten reporting.

Angela Nemesio, provincial social welfare officer, said the number of cases of women and children abuse averaged 36 in the past year, but this year, 26 cases of violence against women and 26 cases of exploitation of children were filed.

"The increase is more on the awareness that these cases must be reported," said Nemesio.

Gen. Trinidad-Ifugao said the police are extending such cases

public had caused. He said that in the past, families had tended to keep cases of violence against women and children under wraps.

Police said the number of cases of violence against women and children have increased sharply in the province this year, but officials have issued orders to tighten reporting.

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"The increase is more on the awareness that these cases must be reported," said Nemesio.

local reproductive health code after Congress had failed to pass a national code for the past seven years.

## Health issues

The province would have a "comprehensive" health addressing reproductive health issues.

It is also tackling the problem that more than 100,000 people are still in need of health services.

Province said night, just before sunrise, but it was limited that there was no blood circulation of women.

"There must be a syndicate because we are different and we

women," he said.

He said the officers are expected to clamp down on the problem.

Because he cited down a vehicle but on the national highway because of complaints from residents.

## Filler use

The issue of prostitution in Benguet had come up in 2006 and had a big impact on the campaign in the local elections in 2006.

A government agency had reported that some girls were being trafficked by 100.

Reported said the admission of the province was staggered


by the media and raised him his bid for reelection as governor in 2006.

"It's higher now, around P1.5M to P2.5M," said Nemesio.

She said, deputy director of the Philippine MDO Council for Population, Health and Welfare, and a study commissioned by the United Nations Population Fund noted that the trends of the highest rates of difficult pregnancies among 30 prior areas.


The national even though Benguet had the highest rate of reported girls, she said.

He said, Cebu, Benguet, Marikina, Cebu



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# GMA orders Cabinet men to face probe

**By page 10**  
 It is a warning that appears to be out there, Mr. Lopez said.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Lim (who succeeded Mr. Arroyo's director) to the Cabinet is to ensure that the Speaker's office is not involved in any way in the investigation. He is to ensure that the Speaker's office is not involved in any way in the investigation. He is to ensure that the Speaker's office is not involved in any way in the investigation.

"The President is trying to tell everybody that there's really nothing wrong with the Speaker's office and the administration is willing to let it all go if it is proven that the Speaker's office is not involved in any way in the investigation."

## Should be on-scene page

A Cabinet official said Mr. Arroyo was not involved in an emergency meeting of the President's office on the day of the Speaker's office's complaint. He said that the Speaker's office is not involved in any way in the investigation.

"We want to know what's going on in the Speaker's office," he said. "We want to know what's going on in the Speaker's office."

"We want to know what's going on in the Speaker's office," he said. "We want to know what's going on in the Speaker's office."

## Abalos decides to face Senate but not today

**By Beverly T. Marañon**

**COMMUNIST OFFICIALS**  
 That Senator Abalos has decided to face the Senate in answer to questions about his involvement in the 2010-2011 National Broadband Network (NBN) deal.

"He will not be able to testify until next week, according to his lawyer Gabriel Villalón, who said the Committee chair received an invitation from the Senate on Tuesday night last week to be able to attend to his hearing/committee appearance."

Villalón said he and his clients would ask the Senate to reschedule Abalos' appearance for next week.

"The Senate should be able to hold its hearing on Tuesday night, according to his lawyer Gabriel Villalón, who said the Committee chair received an invitation from the Senate on Tuesday night last week to be able to attend to his hearing/committee appearance."

"The Senate should be able to hold its hearing on Tuesday night, according to his lawyer Gabriel Villalón, who said the Committee chair received an invitation from the Senate on Tuesday night last week to be able to attend to his hearing/committee appearance."

already upholds the Senate's constitution right to compel officials to appear before it. "The right is a constitutional right of the Senate," he said.

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"The right is a constitutional right of the Senate," he said. "The right is a constitutional right of the Senate."

only create the perception of bias but also place the Senate in a position where it is not able to hold its hearing on Tuesday night, according to his lawyer Gabriel Villalón, who said the Committee chair received an invitation from the Senate on Tuesday night last week to be able to attend to his hearing/committee appearance."

"The right is a constitutional right of the Senate," he said. "The right is a constitutional right of the Senate."

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has nothing to hide, and so he should not be invited to go," Villalón said to the Inquirer.

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"The right is a constitutional right of the Senate," he said. "The right is a constitutional right of the Senate."

all means legal and necessary to ensure any and all efforts that seek to protect the Senate from being compromised in constitutional duties," Villalón said.

## Administration spoke

While Mr. Arroyo spoke of a non-appeal to discontinue his administration, Mr. Villalón, president of the National Bar Association, said that the current controversy came from a failure of the administration.

"If this continues or intensifies, it will cause a divide within the administration that will be a reflection of the President's own failure," Villalón said.

Both attempts to approach Mr. Arroyo last year in the midst of the "buddy buy" controversy failed because of his unwillingness to appear in the House of Representatives, but that would change if there is a split in the administration, analysts said.

## Lack of alternatives

When would Mr. Arroyo would be in the lack of alternatives to his position, Mr. Villalón said. He said that the current controversy came from a failure of the administration.

"If this continues or intensifies, it will cause a divide within the administration that will be a reflection of the President's own failure," Villalón said.

Both attempts to approach Mr. Arroyo last year in the midst of the "buddy buy" controversy failed because of his unwillingness to appear in the House of Representatives, but that would change if there is a split in the administration, analysts said.

## Luli leads counterattack against Joey de V

**By page 10**  
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## House coalition cracks up, JDV could lose speakership

**By page 10**  
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# News

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## US pledges \$190M for Mindanao

By Cynthia B. Bhatia

THE UNITED STATES HAS PLEDGED up to \$190 million in assistance to the Philippines over the next five years to promote economic development projects in Mindanao.

The agreement for the grant was signed in Washington in a ceremony presided over by President Maunogue Arroyo and US Ambassador to the Philippines Kincho Hooten. The ceremony was witnessed by government, private sector and civil society leaders from across Mindanao.

Under the Mindanao Peace and

Development (MPD) Agreement, the Philippine and US governments will continue working together to improve the lives of the people of Mindanao by developing infrastructure and expanding economic opportunities.

"The American people are proud to work alongside our Filipino partners to help bring peace and prosperity to Mindanao, improve the lives of Mindanao families, and support the overall development of the Philippines," Hooten said in a statement released by the embassy shortly before the signing.

The United States Agency for In-

ternational Development and the Mindanao Economic Development Council will oversee implementation of activities under the MPD Agreement.

The President had called for "deeper and broader" American participation in the Mindanao peace process and development considering the decreasing US military presence in the Philippines.

Mindanao has repeatedly assisted the Philippines, an important security ally since the end of World War II. 63 years ago, it is committing to protect peace and economic progress in southeast Philippines.

## Teachers seek probe of CHED call center lab

By Jerry E. Espinosa

THE LEADER OF A MILITANT teachers group yesterday called on Congress to investigate alleged irregularities surrounding the P500-million call center laboratory project of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

The supposed irregularities included an "apparent" rigged bidding, the ballooning of the project cost by an additional P200 million from its original pricing of P300 million, and irregular cash advances amounting to P175 million. Advances of Contracted teachers' claims were also alleged.

"All the signs of plunder are there," Tanco claimed.

The ACT leader called on both the Senate and the House of Representatives to conduct an investigation.

Leader of Filipino Teachers' President Maunogue Arroyo agreed to investigate by independent bodies.

Conrado Lopez, president of the 150-member Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, said he would look into the matter.

Disputes are now in the United States and are connected to the project.

The business deal had failed to reach CHED's goal of setting up call center labs in 100 schools across the country.

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# Meteorite strikes Peru; 200 fall ill

## Crater spews mysterious gases

LIMA—ABOUT 200 VILLAGERS HAVE FALLEN ill from mysterious gases that spewed from a crater after a meteorite crashed in southeastern Peru, but no radiation has been detected, officials and scientists said on Tuesday.

Scores of residents of the mining village of Chuschi have been vomiting and complaining of headaches and dizziness after the space object struck the area Saturday, causing an 8-meter-deep, 20-meter-wide crater.

Engineer Jesus Sotomayor of the Peruvian National Energy Institute said a cloud of vapors found no radiation of the crash site and confirmed that the crater was not visited by a full-on comet.

"We have determined with precision instruments that there is no radiation," Sotomayor said.

Sotomayor said the illnesses may have been triggered by volcanic activity or other means that may have resulted in the volcanic gases produced by the meteorite strike.

"It is a conventional meteorite that, when it struck, produced gases by heating with elements of the ground," he said.

He also ruled out that the crater was a volcano.

"It had been the case in volcanic craters, but it didn't come here for our radiation and contaminated the area," he said.

Villagers were first that the illness may have spread from the long-term health problems while some say also concerned that more objects could fall from space. Local residents said they feared an explosion and the ground cracks after the meteorite crashed.

In the town of Chuschi, north of the crater, scores of residents, including 200-odd villagers, were being treated and taken to hospitals for their long-term health problems.



LOCAL police officers stand next to a crater apparently made by a meteorite in Chuschi, southeastern Peru.



# Front-runner for Japan PM admits charisma deficit

TOKYO—SHINZO ABE, THE FRONT runner to be Japan's next prime minister, admitted on Wednesday he lacked charisma but said he would seek to improve people's lives and enhance work opportunities.

Prime Minister Taro Aso's resignation was expected to lead to Abe's return to power.

But he also said he would not be the first prime minister to be elected without a political party. He said he would seek to improve people's lives and enhance work opportunities.

"I don't think I will be able to demonstrate the kind of leadership Prime Minister

Aburahi had in his second term," Abe said in a press conference with his.

But he noted that the ruling party, which was defeated in July elections, had lost support in part due to a growing sense of uneasiness about the economy and the government's handling of the crisis.

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"I don't think I will be able to demonstrate the kind of leadership Prime Minister

# Saudi cleric denounces Bin Laden

RIYADH—A LEADING SAUDI CLERIC has publicly denounced Osama bin Laden, a key move among clerics in his native Saudi Arabia who have avoided direct criticism of the al-Qaida leader.

Sheikh al-Umairi issued his "open letter to Osama bin Laden" on his website last week (DAILY INQUIRER) and said it was not a defense but a warning to al-Qaida to stop its attacks.

Bin Laden and al-Qaida critics in Saudi Arabia's conservative religious establishment have often criticized Saudi clerics for failing to unequivocally denounce bin Laden's actions.

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INVESTMENT BANKER LARRY A. PETERSON, FOUNDER OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE FUND, IS SEEN HERE AT THE CLIMATE CHANGE FUND'S ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO, ILL. THE FUND IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT AIMS TO RAISE MONEY TO SUPPORT CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT.

# Iran attack talks worry Russia, China

WASHINGTON—RUSSIA AND CHINA expressed alarm on Tuesday over a summit by Iranian leaders in Tehran, saying the talks could lead to a new round of war with Iran, and Pakistan said diplomacy was key to ending a standoff with Tehran over its nuclear program.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who is expected to lead the talks, has been accused of making a number of threats, including the possibility of a nuclear attack on Israel, and has been accused of making a number of threats, including the possibility of a nuclear attack on Israel.

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# Climate campaigners may get Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO—THE 2009 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE could go to a climate campaigner such as Al Gore or to a climate scientist such as James Hansen, according to a report in the Norwegian newspaper Aftenposten.

The winner of the 100-year-old prize, which is awarded to those who have made significant contributions to peace, is announced in October.

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FORMER Vice President of the United States and author of the best-selling book "The Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore.















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## Peso, stocks rally on Fed cut

**GCCC  
subsidy  
rose in  
first 8  
months**

By Michelle V. Bana

The GOVERNMENT's subsidy to government-owned and -controlled corporations jumped by a significant margin in January in August.

Finance officials said the increase was due to the impact of those social services.

Data from the Department of Finance showed that the government spent P14.3 billion in subsidies to GOCCs in the first eight months of the year, rising by 75 percent from the P8.2 billion recorded in the same period last year.

The double-digit increase in subsidies to GOCCs is the first time since 2012 that the GOCCs' share of the total subsidies to the first eight months of the year has risen.

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## But political uncertainty remains key concern

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Larson and Gary C. Smith

THE STOCK MARKET YESTERDAY drew a measure of comfort from the US Federal Reserve's decision to cut its benchmark interest rate by a larger-than-expected 50 basis points—a move that is seen to give the US economy a softer landing.

According to local analysts, the US Fed's move indicated that the world could see the price of oil.

Following the announcement, the 20-year peso Philippine stock exchange index rose sharply by 3.23 percent to 75.20 points to 3,205.96.

The broader all-share index also surged 41.45 points to 1,956.90 percent to 3,238.35.

The peso further rallied, closing at a 56.37 against the US dollar.

Volatility at the spot foreign exchange market rose to 0.0073, the highest since the previous day's 0.0044.

To estimate a trading volume of 3.2 billion shares, worth P2.8 billion (P20 million) in 2017, the market index declined 0.2 to 22, while 40 stocks were unchanged.

However, domestic political uncertainty and recent high levels of peso volatility kept investors and led to price volatility during the session.

"There was some profit taking because of political uncertainty and strong US prices," said Lawrence de Leon at Arcadia Capital by Citibank. "However, we're keeping an eye on local political developments."

President Rodrigo Duterte's leadership



CLARET at the Euro-Claret City of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange recently celebrated after losing a bet that the US Federal Reserve has cut interest rates.

Jose Miguel Altuch has been linked to an allegedly multimillion-dollar scheme to defraud investors and defraud the government and Citibank. The deal had earlier been suspended for the Singapore Court.

"After trading steadily in the two days, the main index has broken out of the 3,200 resistance mark," following the expected move from the Fed's action," said Francisco Libano of PSC Securities Inc. said.

There were also moves in the price of oil, after they rose to new peaks above \$62 a barrel in early Asia trading yesterday. (See sidebar on this page.)

The market was expecting a 25-basis-point rate hike and another quarter percentage cut in October. Jerome Powell, head of the Federal Reserve, said in his press conference that the Fed had cut rates to 0.25 percent, the lowest it has ever been.

## Global oil prices rise above \$82

SINGAPORE—Oil prices yesterday rose as traders bet the price would rise in the next two to three months. The oil price rose to the 15th highest level in 2017, as traders bet the price would rise in the next two to three months. The oil price rose to the 15th highest level in 2017, as traders bet the price would rise in the next two to three months.

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### CURRENCIES



### FOREIGN EXCHANGE



### STOCK MARKET



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- World closer to forging free trade deal, says WTO /B3
- Insurers expect reprieve from capital hike rule /B4

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# Insurers expect reprieve from capital hike rule

## New IC chief says circular to be issued before end of the year

By Nicholas P. Dungey

**INSURERS EXPECTED REPRIEVE** from the Insurance Commission (IC) is likely to delay the implementation of the newly increased to the registration and net worth requirements in the new Insurance Commission Regulation (ICR) 2008, which had set higher net worth and capital requirements would curtail the insurance industry's ability to service the insurance market.

The IC chief said the insurance firms found it difficult to comply with the capital hike requirement at this

point in time.

"Insurance firms had been in the process of capitalizing their companies to raise capital. A regulation made it more difficult. It is unreasonable, that doesn't come from a business perspective," he said.

He said that before the end of the year, the Insurance Commission would issue a circular proposing the implementation of the increase in capital and net worth requirements in the new ICR 2008.

He said that the insurance firms were not just capable of meeting the required capital and net worth requirements, but also in the process of raising capital and net worth requirements from the insurance industry.

**Insurance Industry**

The Insurance Commission (IC) 2008, a circular issued by the Insurance Commission (IC) 2008, requires both life and non-life insurance firms to meet higher minimum paid-up capital and net worth.

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## Indian firms urged to make RP their hubs in Asean

By Ronald W. Dungey

**THE PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** yesterday urged Indian businessmen to consider making the Philippines their base of operations in Southeast Asia.

A group of businessmen from India is the center to replace business opportunities in the Philippines.

## COMPETITIVE EDGE SLIMMING

# Indian outsourcing firms seen moving to RP, China

**INDUSTRIAL-EDGE OUTSOURCING** companies are shifting some of their operations to China, the Philippines, Vietnam and Korea to a bid to stay competitive in highly competitive, cost-sensitive markets and a rising demand for local products.

Outsourcing services companies there on doing jobs such as making consumer calls, payroll management and accounting at a fraction of the cost of big multinational firms or governments.



The move in India is also shifting to the back of a robust economy that has led to a shift in the industry to other sectors, making companies to look elsewhere for business.

"I can only say in India, I probably would have been worried to do it," said Jyoti Kulkarni, chief executive of HMT Global Solutions Ltd.

of the Indian outsourcing industry, which is expected to grow at a rate of 10-12 percent per year, according to a report by the Indian outsourcing industry.

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## eTelecare buying AOL unit in RP

**NEW YORK—TELECARE GLOBAL**, a New York-based company, is expected to buy the Philippines unit of AOL for about \$7.5 million.

**Even moving out**

The Bangalore-based back-office services provider said to purchase all its revenue from the Philippines, India and the United States, but India is now accounts for little over half the total, and capital expenditure in the Philippines and India has helped it offset the impact of a stronger rupee.

**DIVESTING** the improving education and parks in RP

Let's take a look at the two facilities in India, which are expected to be sold to a private company. The first facility is in Bangalore, and the second is in Chennai.

**Customer, which has multiple facilities in India, is expected to sell the first facility in Bangalore, and the second is in Chennai.**

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## SM unit, Accor sign deal on Mactan hotel operation

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

**SM INVESTMENTS CORP.** has signed a contract with Accor Hotels, an international hotel chain, to manage and operate the new SM Grand Hotel in Mactan, Cebu.

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# Gov't urged to speed up MRT contract buy-back

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

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## Peso, stocks rally on Fed cut

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

**Leading markets continue with volatility** but last night's Wall Street performance, it seems the most likely.

Considered as a US investor, the market would have been a better choice, which would have led to a rise in the market.

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"THE BRUKE" starring Jennifer Jason Leigh and Steve Van Horn, premieres on HBO on Sunday, Sept. 23, 9 p.m. The movie is about a couple whose relationship has gone sour, but who are both dedicated about staying in their apartment. This results in an all-out war of the wits, where the battle between resolve is waged: their ground will not be taken.



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| GALLERIA                          |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 THE BRAVE ONE - TRK             | 6 HOST                 |
| 2 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 7 UNDERDOG             |
| 3 BRATZ                           | 8 LAKE SA PIOLA        |
| 4 BRATZ                           | 9 I KNOW WHO KILLED ME |
| 5 SHOOT EM UP                     | 10 ROGUE ASSASSIN      |

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| ERMITA                 |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 SHOOT EM UP          | 6 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY |
| 2 HOST                 | 8 UNDERDOG THE BRAVE ONE          |
| 3 ROGUE ASSASSIN       | 9 BRATZ                           |
| 4 I KNOW WHO KILLED ME | 10 SHOOT EM UP                    |

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| METRO EAST       |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 UNDERDOG       | 6 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY |
| 2 THE BRAVE ONE  | 8 I KNOW WHO KILLED ME            |
| 3 SHOOT EM UP    | 7 BRATZ                           |
| 4 ROGUE ASSASSIN | 9 BRUSH HOUR 3                    |

| NOVALICHES                        |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 3 ROGUE ASSASSIN |
| 2 SHOOT EM UP                     | 4 UNDERDOG       |

| PIONEER                           |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 3 BRATZ |
| 2 SHOOT EM UP                     | 4 HOST  |

| STA. ROSA         |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 DETURBA         | 1 UNDERDOG     |
| 2 ROGUE ASSASSIN  | 2 LAKE         |
| 3 DAYWATCH        | 3 BRUSH HOUR 3 |
| 4 DON'T LOOK BACK | 4 SKINWALKERS  |

| DASMARINAS                        |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 11 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY |
| 2 ROGUE ASSASSIN                  | 2 CHUCK & LARRY                    |
| 3 NANCY DREW                      | 3 ROGUE ASSASSIN                   |
| 4 PLANET TERROR                   | 4 THE BRAVE ONE                    |

| ANGELES           |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 DETURBA         | 1 THE BRUSH    |
| 2 NANCY DREW      | 2 A LOVE STORY |
| 3 DAYWATCH        | 3 LAKE         |
| 4 THE LAST LEGION |                |

| STARHILLS    |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 DETURBA    | 4 ROGUE ASSASSIN  |
| 2 NANCY DREW | 5 THE LAST LEGION |
| 3 DAYWATCH   | 6 BRUSH HOUR 3    |

| BACOLOD                     |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 UNDERDOG                  | 1 UNDERDOG        |
| 2 LAKE                      | 2 DETURBA         |
| 3 THE BRUSH                 | 3 SKINWALKERS     |
| 4 THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND | 4 LAKE            |
| 5 SKINWALKERS               | 5 THE LAST LEGION |
| 6 KANSAS                    | 6 THE WITNESS     |

| SM CINEMA                         |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 THE BRAVE ONE                   | 6 HOST                 |
| 2 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 7 UNDERDOG             |
| 3 BRATZ                           | 8 LAKE SA PIOLA        |
| 4 BRATZ                           | 9 I KNOW WHO KILLED ME |
| 5 SHOOT EM UP                     | 10 ROGUE ASSASSIN      |

| METRO EAST       |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 UNDERDOG       | 6 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY |
| 2 THE BRAVE ONE  | 8 I KNOW WHO KILLED ME            |
| 3 SHOOT EM UP    | 7 BRATZ                           |
| 4 ROGUE ASSASSIN | 9 BRUSH HOUR 3                    |

| NOVALICHES                        |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 3 ROGUE ASSASSIN |
| 2 SHOOT EM UP                     | 4 UNDERDOG       |

| PIONEER                           |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 3 BRATZ |
| 2 SHOOT EM UP                     | 4 HOST  |

| STA. ROSA         |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 DETURBA         | 1 UNDERDOG     |
| 2 ROGUE ASSASSIN  | 2 LAKE         |
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| DASMARINAS                        |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY | 11 I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY |
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| 3 NANCY DREW                      | 3 ROGUE ASSASSIN                   |
| 4 PLANET TERROR                   | 4 THE BRAVE ONE                    |

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| 6 KANSAS                    | 6 THE WITNESS     |







